# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:307
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000
NATIONAL AFFORESTATION AND ECO-DEVELOPMENT BOARD
PRABHUNATH SINGH

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board has been constituted;

(b) if so, the main aims and objectives thereof;

(c) whether the objectives have been achieved;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken by the Board to achieve the aims and objectives for which it was set up?

## Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 307 DUE ON 14/8/ REGARDING NATIONAL AFFORESTATION AND ECO-DEVELOPMENT BOARD

(a) to (e) National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB) was constituted in the Ministry of Environment and Forests ir August 1992 with the mandate of promoting afforestation, tree planting, ecological restoration and eco-development activities in the country, with special attention to degraded forest areas and lands adjoining forest areas, national parks, sanctuaries and other protected areas, as well as ecologically fragile areas like the Western Himalayas, Aravallis, Western Ghats, etc. The aims and objectives are given in detail in Annexure I.

National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board has evolved specific schemes (such as Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme, Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme, Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme), which aim at helping the States in developing appropriate afforestation and eco-development packages for augmenting biomass production. Joint Forest Management has been made an integral part of these schemes for ensuring people`s participation. NAEB also functions as the nodal agency in the Centre for setting annual targets and monitoring the progress of afforestation in all States under Point No. 16 of the Twenty Point Programme. These activities are carried out through the appropriate schemes of several other central ministries, as also through State Plan Schemes. The total physical coverage under the Twenty Point Programme since inception of the Board has been 12.71 million hectares. In its endeavour to realise the laid down objectives, the targets set under NAEB`s various schemes/programmes have been largely achieved.

Annexure - I in respect of parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 307 for 14/8/2000 regarding National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board

Aims and objectives of National Afforestation and Eco-Development Project.

The National Afforestation and Eco-development Board will be responsible for promoting afforestation, tree planting, ecological restoration and eco-development activities in the country. Special attention will be given to the regeneration of degraded forest areas and lands adjoining forest areas, national parks, sanctuaries and other protected areas as well as the ecologically fragile areas like the Western Himalayas, Aravallis, Western Ghats, etc. In drawing up the plans for afforestation and eco-development, the Board will ensure the following:-

(a) Evolve mechanisms for ecological restoration of degraded forest areas and adjoining lands through systematic planning and implementation, in a cost effective manner;

(b) Restore through natural regeneration or appropriate intervention the forest cover in the country for ecological security and to meet the fuelwood, fodder and other needs of the rural communities;

(c) Restore fuelwood, fodder, timber and other forest produce on the degraded forest and adjoining lands in order to meet the

demands for these items;

(d) Sponsor research and extension of research findings to disseminate new and proper technologies for the regeneration and development of degraded forest areas and adjoining lands;

(e) Create general awareness and help foster people`s movement for promoting afforestation and eco-development with the assistance of voluntary agencies, non-government organisations, Panchayati Raj institutions and others and promote participatory and sustainable management of degraded forest areas and adjoining lands;

(f) Coordinate and monitor the Action Plans for afforestation, tree planting, ecological restoration and eco-development; and

(g) Undertake all other measures necessary for promoting afforestation, tree planting, ecological restoration and eco-development activities in the country.